

**General Announcements:** ENs that have not returned the APOR and/or do not have suitability clearances are on a hard hold for Ticket assignments, payments and portal access. These ENs will receive an SSA cure notice to “cure” the problem. The ENs will have 10 days to respond to the APOR (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/APOR2015>) and 60 days to clear suitability. If corrective actions are not taken in the allotted timeframe, actions will be taken to terminate the EN’s contract. Hard holds will be lifted when corrective action is taken.

**SSA Marketing Summit:** The first in a series of SSA sponsored EN Marketing Summits will be held in conjunction with a regional SSA management meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 1301 Young Street in downtown Dallas, Texas. In addition to SSA national Ticket program leadership, staff from MAXIMUS, BASS and local WIPA, AWIC, PABSS, will attend.

The Marketing Summit agenda will include: EN discussion and sharing of techniques and materials around best EN practices for marketing Ticket program services and recruiting beneficiaries; SSA’s current efforts to market the program, EN input to SSA on the beneficiary website aimed at future beneficiary marketing improvements, local WIPA and PABSS presentations, and general EN issue discussions and Q & A time. BASS will present information on virtual job fairs and their marketing activities and EN resources. MAXIMUS will be there to respond to operational questions or issues.

SSA is encouraging ENs to attend. ENs should email Jennifer Purdum at MAXIMUS [jenniferpurdum@maximus.com](mailto:jenniferpurdum@maximus.com) to receive more information on the Dallas Marketing Summit and to express interest and register for the event. Please send your attendance interest to Jennifer Purdum **now** so that SSA can get a head count and assure adequate space.

**Virtual Job Fair:** BASS provided an update on the virtual job fairs. A dry run shows that the platform is ready and easy to use. BASS will soon announce when the virtual job fairs will occur. SSA privacy and disclosure rules require that the beneficiary registering their information for a Virtual Job Fair sign a consent form for release of their resume to an employer. The consent form must be hand signed and retained in a secure electronic environment. Are ENs willing to assist beneficiaries with completing the consent form, scanning and retaining the form with their secure records and making it available to SSA on demand? An EN response was “Yes.”

**Ticket Portal Update and Testimonial:** Linda Patino of the Ticket to Success EN was in the pilot group for testing the new ITOPPS portal. She shared her experiences including initial challenges and overall positive progress and satisfaction with registering for and using the new portal. SSA reminded ENS that the ITOPPS portal, as a one-stop shop, will eventually replace all other systems. To be ready to access the new portal ENs must have at least one staff member with suitability clearance and a MY SSA account with extra security. The new portal will be implemented in stages in June based on EN readiness. ENs are asked to assess their readiness for portal access and to contact their EN service branch representative or the VR help desk to notify SSA of readiness. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, there were 377 individuals ready to use the portal representing 170 ENs and 31 VR agencies.

**Special Presentation:** U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs' and Labor's collaborative employment service model for Veterans with disabilities

- **Reminders:** The full transcript and audio from the call are available at <https://yourtickettowork.com/web/tw/events-archive>.